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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

8-15-1955

Justice (Vol. 37, Iss. 16)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.



THIS IS THE LAW

EFFECTIVE MAR. 1, 1956

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. XXXVII No. 16

Jersey City, N. J., August 15, 1955

Price 10 Cents



Fashions to Fit. To dramatize unjust arrests and jail sentences arising from "Iron Castles" legislation, South-southern in Fayetteville, Tenn., an appropriate garb to convince townspeople they're deadly serious in their drive to win decent conditions.



In the Swing. Wingate Hicks, employee of Franklin Stores in New York, poses for big cut during intra-league game of Local 99, Office and Distribution Workers. Harry Wellington of R. H. Miller is the catcher. This contest, played in Central Park ball field, went to Miller team by 12-10 score.



Check-Up. Catholic Youth Organization children use Los Angeles ILGWU Health Center for pre-camp examinations. Hubert Sanchez is stethoscoped by Dr. C. Igles while David Boulton of camp and City Councilman Edward Raychel look on. At right, Nurse Tyl Winocour takes Judy Taylor's temperature while Elsa Montana and Emilio Gayet wait their turn.

Special AFL Convention Okays December Date For U.S. Labor Merger

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Mid-Summer Organizing Adds 26 New Shops In EOT, Montreal, Coast

—Pages 3, 4, 5

4,000 N. Y. Beltmakers Win General Wage Hike In Contract Renewal

—Page 3

New S'West Contracts Score Pay Increases At 4 Major Companies

—Page 4

Z. Freedman Dead; Local 66 Manager

Zachary I. Freedman, manager of Local 66, New York Bonnaz and Hand Embroiderers, Pieaters, Tuckers and Stitchers Union, died suddenly on Aug. 8. He was 72 years old.

Freedman was in the midst of negotiations for renewal of an industry agreement when he became ill. He returned to his home in Upper Manhattan, where he passed away.

Quiet, modest and idealistic, Freedman had leadership qualities that rested on respect. He never seemed to seek office and yet was always there to assume it in times of crisis.

Under his guidance, Local 66 became one of the larger locals of the ILCUW with a membership of almost 10,000. Standards rose in trades which joined under the banner of the local and major improvements in workers' conditions were achieved despite sometimes irregular and scattered employment.

Freedman is survived by his wife, Celia, and his daughters, Miriam and Charlotte.

From Chicago, where he was attending the meeting of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, Pres. David Dubinsky sent the following telegram to Mr. Freedman:

"Terribly shocked by the sudden passing of your husband and our colleague. The idealism, intelligence and selfless devotion which Zachary brought to the task of lifting the standards of thousands of garment workers are a true reflection of the man. He served the cause he loved with rare modesty. His loss leaves a void in our ranks. In behalf of the General Executive Board and for myself, extend to you and your family



Zachary I. Freedman

heartfelt sympathy and condolences."

Freedman was born Dec. 5, 1883 in Russia. Before coming to the United States he worked in London, where between 1902 and 1904 he was secretary of an independent union of furniture workers. In this country, he joined the embroidery union soon after it was established. In 1916 he was first elected president of the local. In 1929, when the manager of the local resigned, the ILCUW General Executive Board named Freedman to the post.

Freedman was a member of many liberal institutions and aided such causes as the Jewish Labor Committee and the Trade Union Committee for Israel. His funeral was held at the Roosevelt Auditorium on Aug. 11. Vice Pres. Julius Hochman read a message from Pres. Dubinsky.

Confab on Aged Gets S'West Views

Florence Bodner of the St. Louis ILCUW Social Service Department will represent the union at a conference on problems of the aged to be held at the University of Iowa in Iowa City on Oct. 10-11. She will tell the assemblage of the union's efforts in developing social and recreational activities for retired members and establishing homes for those living alone. The Social Service Department will also make use of the university's research into ways of utilizing the abilities of older citizens.



Howard Molisani, new manager of Local 48, is congratulated by Pres. David Dubinsky. Looking on are, left to right: First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini, Local 78 chief; Edward Molisani, retiring manager; Vice Presidents Louis Stutberg, Local 67 head, and Isidore Nagler, general manager of Cloak Joint Board.

H. Molisani Installed as '48' Chief

TORONTO CLOAK ILC CAMPAIGN CLEANS UP OPEN-SHOP VESTIGES

Half of Toronto's few non-union cloak shops were organized and the remaining handful are now union targets as a result of last month's one-day general work stoppage staged by that city's cloakmakers, Manager Sam Kraskover disclosed.

The work halt was called after a number of individual employers balked at signing a collective agreement that had been approved by the "manufacturers' association. The stoppage not only changed the minds of would-be union renegades; it touched off an avalanche of organizing activity leaving a wake of bright prospects.

Efros Folds

With the ink on its renewed collective agreement barely dry, the union has meanwhile managed to resolve a pressing unemployment problem incurred by the folding of a number of businesses at the end of the spring season. The closing of the cloak department of the T. Eaton Co., the largest department store in Canada, intensified the situation. Eaton's cloak factory subsequently went out of business after 50 years, leaving some 200 employees without jobs.

Dismissing a considerable number of workers who were pensioned, the union succeeded in placing almost all the remaining unemployed cloakmakers in union shops.

On the sportswear front, meanwhile, the industry is having its difficulties, especially in those shops where raincoats and synthetic suits are main production items. On the other hand, sport shops concentrating on skirts, blouses and separates are quite busy.

Howard Molisani was installed as manager of Italian Cloakmakers Union, Local 48, at special ceremonies conducted at the local headquarters, 231 East 14th St., on Aug. 3. Pres. David Dubinsky administered the oath of office.

'98' to Pay First Maternity Benefits

Twelve members of Local 58, New York Rubberized Novelty Workers, will be the first recipients of maternity benefits inaugurated by the local. Manager Daniel Nimsavitz announced.

Benefit checks of \$50 each will be distributed to the new mothers at a special joint meeting of the local's executive board and shop chairmen on Aug. 14.

Establishment of the maternity benefit was approved by the local membership last April, acting on a recommendation by the welfare committee.

The drama of the occasion was heightened by the presence on the platform of Vice Pres. Edward Molisani, former manager of the local, who retired from that post because of illness. His resignation had been accepted by a general membership meeting on July 28, when Howard Molisani was elected to succeed his father.

The new manager was executive secretary of Local 48 since 1948. Eased in the spirit and atmosphere of unionism, Howard Molisani is familiar with the problems confronting the cloakmakers of New York.

At the installation ceremony, Pres. Dubinsky stressed the fact that too few children of members and union officers in the garment industry have chosen to work in this industry and to make careers for themselves either in its management or labor spheres. He told the retired manager, who remains consultant to the local, that his pride in having his son follow in his trade union footsteps was fully justified.

Congratulatory talks also were made by First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini, Cloak Joint Board General Manager Isidore Nagler, and Vice Pres. Salvatore Ninfa.

Kaplan Tells '117' Meet Fall Season Encouraging

An encouraging report on the fall season in New York's coat and suit industry was given by Manager Benjamin Kaplan at a recent meeting of Local 117, New York cloak operators. The start of the season showed a marked improvement over last year, according to Vice Pres. Kaplan.

JUSTICE

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

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Eulogy to a Leader



Message from Pres. David Dubinsky praising the accomplishments of Zachary I. Freedman, Local 66 manager who died in New York on Aug. 8. It read at funeral services in Roosevelt Auditorium by Vice Pres. Julius Hochman. Freedman was cited for tireless labor on behalf of embroidery, pieating and stitching workers.

DRESSMAKERS
LIBERAL PARTY CLUB

BOAT RIDE

to Bear Mountain
SATURDAY
AUG. 27

TICKETS \$1.50 ROUND TRIP
FROM ALL BUSINESS AGENTS OR
LOC. 22 EDU. DEPT. 218 W 40 ST.

Special AFL Confab Approves "Unity Treatable"

In the Parade



Here's the float that employees of Clinton Garment Co., members of Local 303 in Clinton, Iowa, entered in the recent General parade in that city. Labor and management teamed up to make this entry one of the most distinctive in the whole celebration. Left to right: Joan Wagner, Priscilla McBride, Roberts Howett, Clara Howett, Clara Klavang, Bernice Klavang, Marie O'Han, Viola Juehring, Edgar Hoeft, Makala Scudder and Florence Walton.

No Summertime Slack As Coast Organizes 12

Summer was no slack season for ILGWU organizers on the West Coast, who have unionized a dozen Los Angeles shops in recent weeks, reports Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, Pacific Coast director.

Newly signed units include Schag Manufacturing Co., a plastics shop, Lucky Style Novelty Co., a pleasing, stitching and embroidery shop, and the sportswear firms of Darius Chayes, Ray Barth, Anne Sportswear and S and M Sportswear.

Organizational Director Jack Kras, coordinating activities for Manager John Cline of the Los Angeles Joint Sportswear Council, directed the drive at Schag and Lucky Style, while Organizers Jack Spindler and Ray Kline enrolled the sport shops.

In the out-of-town area, union contracts were negotiated with Eschle Bazaar in Long Beach and Diana Maternity in Azusa.

A knit shop, Flameless Knitwear, was brought in by Meyer Silverstein. In charge of the knitted goods organizing drive.

In the cloak industry, Manager 4

Idolor Biondo reports that Organizers Frank Delo and Joe Orsini have unionized three shops—Meyers Garment and Accessories, manufacturing coats, and Chapman Originals, a suit house.

Ambler Rules

Payment to the health and welfare fund must be based on earnings of all workers in the shop, Ambler Delo A. West has ruled following union charges that some Los Angeles sportswear manufacturers were not reporting salaries of certain employees. When union accountants checked company books, they discovered a few firms were excluding trainees and workers who had not yet joined the union from health aid vacation coverage.

200 Win Hours Cut At Jackson in Tenn.

Southeastern Regional Director R. T. Kehrer announces a new agreement has been signed with the Jackson Garment Co., Jackson, Tenn., affecting 200 workers. Chief gains won in the new contract are a reduction in hours from 40 to 38 per cent, and an improved seniority provision.

The negotiating committee of Local 482 consisted of Mary Gray, Elizabeth Fielding, Irene Tubbs, Cletius Warmath, Beulah Pink, Alma Lomas, Beulah Blankenship, Vera Byrum and Florene Pearson.

Merger of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations moved a step closer to completion this month when a special AFL convention in Chicago set up the timetable for actual unification of the two major labor bodies. At the same time, the AFL Executive Council, meeting for its regular quarterly session, denounced

4,000 N. Y. Beltmakers Score Raises in Renewal

Four thousand members of Local 40, New York Beltmakers, will receive \$2 general wage hikes under terms of the new collective agreement negotiated this month. The pact renewed recognition of the overwhelming endorsement of the membership at an overflow meeting on Aug. 10.

BLOUSE CO. DECIDES ON PHILLY LOCATION FOR 100-JOB OUTFIT

The advantages of an established market and a skilled labor force have brought a large blouse plant to Philadelphia. Manager William Ross of the Dress Joint Board reports.

In a rare instance of industry migration in reverse, Sidney Schwartz dropped his part-owned shop in the firm of Sherrybue Young in North Carolina and, looking around for a new location, chose to come North to Philadelphia.

After surveying several possible localities, he was persuaded to open his Maray Fashions plant in that city by his conviction that Philadelphia was a stable, going garment market and by the testimony of several manufacturers who already operate successful blouse shops in the city.

Maray has already started production and expects to employ about 100 workers.

DeCosta Fined

DeCosta and Co. of Philadelphia has been fined \$2,000 by Impartial Chairman George Taylor for violation of the contract. Contrary to provisions of the agreement, the firm sent garments out of town to be cut. This happened during a period when a number of cutters were unemployed or on part time.

The money will be paid to Local 11's relief fund.

The contract, which covers 180 employees belonging to the Belt Manufacturers' Assn., also provides hikes in minimum rates for cutters, operators and general help, and a number of changes sought by the unions to strengthen the agreement. A similar pact is being negotiated for the remaining 1,000 members of the local.

Manager Henry Schwartz led the negotiating team, which included Business Agents Sol Goldberg, Morris Fushbein and Joe Kostel, Organizer Jay Mann and executive board members Nathan Blumberg, Joel Adler, Archie Auerbach, Clarence Francis, Angelo Cintoni, Helene Dorel, Phyllis Prikladnicer, Oscar Jerinsky, Joshua Warner and Morris Zeldman.

Ranks of Local 99 Grow 28 Per Cent

Local 99's membership rose 28 per cent in the 12 months. Office and Distribution Employees' Union (Distributors' Assn.) reports.

Gaining 900 members to a practical roll rose from 3,411 last summer to 3,909 in February. Current dues are \$3.00, and Appleton predicts expansion will continue. He credited Assistant Manager Douglas Lefevre and Staffors Ben Labada and Nick Mable with important contributions to the local's growth.

The Knitgoods section of the industry is a major area of expansion at present, Appleton notes, adding that 13 knitgoods firms have been brought under contract with Local 99 with the help of Vice Pres. Louis Nelson, manager of New York Knitgoods Local 158.

legislative and economic short-cuts on the national and state levels and called for vigorous labor efforts to elect a liberal Congress.

More than 400 AFL leaders gathered in Chicago on Aug. 11 for a one-hour-long confab, at which the date of the regular convention was postponed from Sept. 13 to Dec. 1. It will be held in New York. The CIO meeting will be held concurrently and a joint unifying convention is scheduled for Dec. 4. The Executive Council, of which ILGWU Pres. David Dubinsky is a member, also reviewed and approved the draft of the proposed constitution to govern the merged labor group.

HIT Congress Record

A sweeping resolution by the council condemned the "grossly disappointing" record of Congress and the state legislatures and blamed the stalemate on the lack of strong liberal majorities.

"Only by a far more intensive campaign of public education and organization can labor hope to swing the balance of power to the side of progress and social justice," the council declared. "This must be one of the major objectives of the united labor movement in 1956."

The AFL leaders praised Congress' record on foreign policy, its passage of the \$1 minimum wage and approval of a pay raise for post office workers. But they censured the session for failure to act in the pressing fields of federal aid to school construction, Title-Hartley unemployment relief, legislation for lower-income groups, liberalization of social security benefits and highway construction, and for passage of the comprehensive public housing bill.

The state record was spotty. "Minimum-wage" bills were defeated in 13 states, the CIO said. The law to break the 18th state with such union-busting legislation. Although a 438, and Appleton predicts expansion will continue. He credited Assistant Manager Douglas Lefevre and Staffors Ben Labada and Nick Mable with important contributions to the local's growth.

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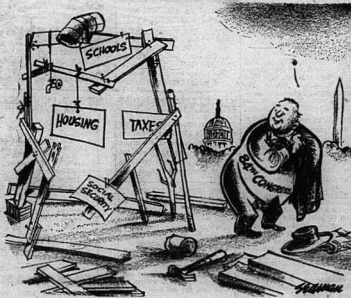
The council also rejected any suggestion that trade union decisions be exchanged with Russia on the same basis as the recent exchange of farm groups. Such a "swap" would only "bring into the hands of the totalitarian dictatorship," the AFL's top body declared.

Such a suggestion, it said, "stems from Moscow to serve the interests of the Soviet dictatorship at home and abroad. A visit by an authoritative American trade union delegation to the USSR would mean handing the people of Russia aid America closer."

"Moscow's real reason for having a representative American trade union delegation visit the USSR is to lend a cover of genuineness and international free trade union respectability to the Soviet state conspiracy unions." Said AFL chief George Meany: "I'll continue a visit to Russia when there are free trade unions there."

Although about 50,000 classrooms were provided last year, approximately 125,000 public elementary and secondary school classrooms and related facilities will be needed during the next five years.

"Whew! That's Done!"



The British Take a Look



Facilities of new Chicago Health Center are inspected by delegation from British Consulate General's office. Left to right: Dr. Stanley Heller, labor advisor to Consulate; Molly Imlech; Dr. Stanley Heller, center medical director; Joni Johnston; Vice Pres. Morris Bialis, Midwest regional director.

Midwest ILG Oils Machinery For Fall Confabs on Renewals

With approaching contract expiration dates in Illinois setting the tempo, the union's collective bargaining machinery is being tuned up for autumn pact renewal parleys, reports Vice Pres. Morris Bialis, Midwest regional director.

A preliminary meeting was held early this month between the ILOWU and the Garment Industries of Illinois, whose pact terminates Sept. 15. Problems and conditions in the cotton garment industry were discussed, paving the way for early negotiations.

Last week, the union notified the Chicago Coat and Suit Manufacturers' Assn. that the agreement expires Oct. 15 and requested a conference at which it would present suggestions for renewal terms.

In Decatur, Ill., meanwhile, a group of cotton garment manufacturers have resigned from the Garment Industries of Illinois and have notified the union that they have formed their own association. The ILG, in turn, has informed those manufacturers that before the union negotiates with them, they must first settle a number of complaints in connection with their retirement fund contributions.

Smoler Job Study

The union has turned thumbs down on an attempt by Smoler Bros. in Herrin, Ill., to discharge 40 workers. The firm recently changed from individual ownership to a corporation, and claimed the firings were necessary to improve efficiency.

To settle the dispute, it was agreed that industrial engineers representing both union and management would conduct an efficiency survey of the plant. William Gonsberg, director of the ILOWU Management Engineering Department, is in charge of the union study.

In extending the current contract, which expired several months ago, the union has set Sept. 3 as the deadline for a renewed agreement.

Shop Closes

After seven years, the Huntington, Ind., plant of the Gossard Carpet Co. has shut down because of "operating losses." The firm has agreed to pay some \$3,500 in vacation money to more than 50 workers, and talks are now centered on severance payments. According to Bialis, who has directed the negotiations, an early settlement is likely.

The first recorded strike of workers in the building trades occurred in Mar. 1791, when Philadelphia carpenters struck unsuccessfully for a 10-hour day and additional pay for overtime.

McKay, Dutchess and Iris Renewals Boost Standards of 1,000 in Pennsy

ABBEY PLASTIC SHOP OK'S JOB GUARANTEE IN NEW 3-YEAR PACT

Fifty workers at the Abbey Plastic Co. of Jersey City, N. J., have been assured employment for 48 weeks out of the year, according to a provision of a new three-year agreement signed between the firm and Local 132, Union and Novelty Workers, Manager Martin Feldman announces.

The union provision is expected to aid considerably in the stabilization of employment at Abbey. In addition, it should serve as a model for similar provisions in other pacts renewed by Local 132.

Other gains incorporated into the renewed contract include a 1½-cent-an-hour wage increase and paid vacations up to two weeks. The first agreement with the company was signed six years ago.

Contracts being renewed with three leading Pennsylvania underwear manufacturers employing more than 1,000 workers will contain provisions taking into account the higher minimum wage voted by the last session of Congress, Vice Pres. Gingsold, Northeast Department director, announced.

The shops are McKay Products Co. in Bayre, manufacturer of "Blue Beaver" underwear and lingerie, with 600 employees; Dutchess Underwear Co. in Old Pope, with a work force of 300; and Jean Iris, also known as Loungery, in Harrisburg, employing 150.

Workers Ratify

Terms of the McKay pact have been approved by the members of Local 365 and the final signing is expected soon. These include provision for a shorter work week, wage rescheduling clause and improved seniority and grievance procedures.

Completion of McKay pact terms marks success of ILOWU efforts to improve standards at the shop, while enabling the firm to continue its recovery following reorganization after a period of near bankruptcy. McKay's operations, formerly carried on in several plants around

the country, are now confined to the Bayre shop.

The previous McKay contract expired June 1, but negotiations were continued until the major obstacles were eliminated.

Union negotiators, headed by Vice Pres. Gingsold, Field Supervisor Jack Halpern and Executive Manager Harry Schneider, included Assistant Secretary Herman Hugh Maloney, Business Agent George Becher and Local 365 Pres. Katherine Volynskiy, plus a committee of workers.

Barless Gains Obeyed
Provisions for further adjustment of wage levels in line with the hike in the federal minimum wage, plus shorter working hours, more paid holidays and settlement of accumulated grievances highlight the terms of the Dutchess contract, which has been approved by Local 365 members.

The previous pact with this firm expired April 30, and the resultant negotiations have been difficult. In June, Dutchess workers walked out when the employer threatened to halt all health, welfare and retirement contributions and cancel paid vacations.

Despite these and other provocations by the company, union negotiators drove patiently for a settlement and finally achieved it. Schneider and Maloney led negotiations.

The one-year renewal of the Joan Iris pact was announced in Harrisburg last week by Manager George Griffiths. A special dinner calls for wage reopening talks when the federal wage hike goes into effect. Other provisions call for a 35-hour work week with compensating wage hikes, paid holidays and standard welfare benefits.

Local 48 Choral Group Planning Fall Activities

Plans for the fall singing season were made by the Choral Group of Local 48, Italian Clockmakers, at a dinner-meeting held jointly with the local's executive board recently. The chorus will provide a musical interlude when Local 48 Manager Howard Molinari delivers a radio address on the economic situation in the New York east and suit industry, on Saturday, Aug. 20, at 10:30 A.M. over WEVD.

Montreal Dressmakers Enroll 300 in 7 Shops

Organization of seven new shops added some 300 members to dress union ranks in Montreal last month, reports Vice Pres. Bernard Shanc. All the contracts, in compliance with the industry collective agreement, call for shorter weekly working hours with compensating wage increases and all standard health, welfare and retirement benefits.

The shops are Hochelaga Converters, Daruth Blouse, Kertell Values, Tailored Casuals, Classic Sportswear, Playgirl, and Jay and Dee Dress.

An attempt by some Montreal clockmakers to renew the new far-styled fall coats to non-union shops has been thwarted by a union demand that the employers either live up to the collective agreement or go to arbitration.

The manufacturers had maintained they would not report their ending the work to non-union shops to the industry's Joint Committee (Code Authority). But when the union called a conference and

insisted on compliance with the contract, the dissident employers gave in.

Crash Victim

Union officers sent condolences this month to 87-day Aliman, member of the Clockmakers' Union and brother of one of the victims killed in the crash of an Israeli airplane shot down by Communist Bulgarian fighter planes. In a letter to Aliman, Assistant Manager Sam Liberman declared that "this wanton murder of 56 innocent people has deeply affected all of us. The officers and members of the Clockmakers' Union are with you at this time of your sad bereavement."

Embarrassment of Riches: From a Bevy of Princesses, a Queen Was Chosen



There's a cross section of Southern beauty right here in this group of Southeast Region members, all delegates to the annual area institute and all contestants for

the title of "Conference Queen." The institute was held in Daytona Beach, Fla. Queen title was won by Gladys Dyer of Asheville, N. C.

Heat, humidity and hot styles turn garment shops into summertime infernos

"By the sweat of



HOT AND COLD. Steam in summer is as welcome as ice in winter. This Hoffman press operator (left) clamps on to his cigar as he comes through the vapor. August starts the season of pile fabrics and woolsens that need plenty of steam. Operator (at right) is relatively more fortunate. No steam for him.



COLD AND HOT. With pressing board pitched in middle of shop, this presser (left) catches breezes (or drafts) from windows on two sides of the plant, with additional blasts every time the freight elevator door opens. Hot operator (right) is backed into corner of shop. No breezes for him.



COCKTAIL HOUR. This quartette of sweltering female finishers takes time out for refreshing break. Employer and worker have learned the value of interludes when workers can wet their whistles with soft drinks; thus braced against peak afternoon heat, worker and needle move faster in final spurt to knock-off time.



ON THE LINE. It's not only the heat but also the humidity that must be battled. These workers have devised their own system for keeping dry when handkerchiefs can't keep up with the humidity. Mop-up plan calls for the use of two handkerchiefs, alternated so that one is in use while the other is drying.



COOLING SYSTEMS. Each man seeks own way to beat the heat. Fellow on left adopts latest fashion note: although not in Bermuda, he takes to shorts. Refrigeration expert (right) has known enough hot summers to remember that heat rises. Carefully folded wet towel on top is also good for posture, he says.

SOME LIKE IT HOT. Science explains hot-weather discomfort as difference between bodily and surrounding temperatures. Two school's of thought exist concerning proper cure. Samovarnicks hold that hot tea gets you hotter inside—makes you cooler outside. Cole partisans insist cold drinks cool the corpus best.

f thy brow...

Genesis 3:19

THERE'S something special about summer heat when it comes to garment workers. Even when the entire nation sweaters they carry their own extra burden of discomfort. Summer months in the shop bring fall styles and this means velvets, woolsens and other kinds of fabrics that trap and hold the heat.

When streets get hot, shops get hotter. In large-city markets, especially New York, high real estate values and rentals cause shops to be crowded. The heat digs in, settles down, and sits. Headlines record temperatures over 90 degrees throughout the nation. But in the shop, machine motors, pressing equipment, lack of effective ventilation pit humanity against humidity.

Someday, buildings will be built and shops will be laid out with primary regard not on how to get the biggest rental but how to make human beings comfortable at work. Someday, there will be enough space and air to safeguard health. Someday, there will even be air conditioning for all. Thus the sweltering garment worker dreams and hopes...

Meanwhile, everything possible is done to keep cool or at least gain some relief. Overheated pressers cry, "Open the windows!" and immediately perspiring operators in the path of the breeze protest the chilling. Fans blow blasts of air on finishers huddled around their table, bringing relief today—and a cold tomorrow.

The heat makes no distinctions—and boss and worker suffer alike. Ingenious personal cooling systems are devised as the heat hangs on, energy and endurance melt, and all begin to wish for an end to the wet, dripping, oppressive, oven-baked good old summertime.



FAN-TASK TRICK. Hot or cold, damp or dry, work must go on, garments must be made to fit, shipments must leave on time. Fity the poor boss who is too busy to keep cool. Here, boss and worker tackle problems of workmanship while latter uses old and tried method of fanning their fuming brows.



PSYCHOLOGICAL ATTACK. When temperature melts temper—smile! It helps. Try it. A smirk is hotter than a smile. Be kind to your co-workers: keep cool with a quip. Think of Eskimos, bear and buttermilk and take comfort in the thought that it can't last forever. If this doesn't work—make the boss get a fan.



RECORD BREAKER. July heat this year broke all records. As thermometer climbed, thousands wilted and waited for relief. This ingenious presser devised own infallible cooling system: an icebag on top to keep cool, held down by a towel to keep dry. Simultaneous impact of ice and steam beats Turkish bath.

Strikers Solid at Serbin In Spite of New Arrests

Strikers at Serbin, Inc., in Fayetteville, Tenn., are maintaining their ranks solidly despite new arrests and without the benefit of labor's traditional right to picket. On July 28, Chancellor R. E. Lee banned all picketing of Serbin in Tennessee, the ban reportedly replacing earlier injunctions prohibiting striking workers from approaching within 1,000 feet of the plant.

Nevertheless, according to Southeast Regional Director E. T. Kober, 12 strikers are scheduled to be tried Aug. 16 on contempt charges alleging violations of injunctions through crossing the 1,000-foot from Serbin, and other ambiguous charges evidently aimed at harassing the workers and crushing the strike.

The ILGWU has appealed to the Tennessee Court of Appeals against the ban on picketing.

Strikers' Story

Meanwhile, two teams of strikers, dressed in prison garb, have distributed leaflets at retail outlets carrying the company's garments. There have been 11 in Nashville, Chattanooga, Birmingham, Cincinnati, Louisville, Memphis, Knoxville, Atlanta, Lexington and Paducah. The picket line nearest the struck plant has been set up on the Alabama side of the Tennessee border line.

The latest committee have been handing out a circular signed by ILGWU Local 69, Fayetteville, reading: "WHAT CRIME DO WE COMMIT?"

"One hundred days ago we went on strike in Fayetteville, Tennessee. Girls who had worked with us for years were being thrown out of work, and so we had to strike for our rights to be treated as people with dignity.

"Because we are standing up for our rights our boss, Len Serbin, has hired a squad of men with guns, who have been deputized to arrest us and have us put in jail. We have committed no crime except to stand up for our rights, and for this we have been arrested over two hundred times and thrown in jail five times.

"Our boss, Len Serbin, manufactures women's dresses. The label on the dress is 'Serbin of Miami.'

"We sincerely believe that the majority of women will not want to buy dresses that will add to the profits of a boss who thinks as little of the women who work for him that he has us thrown in jail.

"Southern women know what is right."

MYOPIC SOUTHWEST FIRMS HELD CAUSING SKILLED LABOR LACK

Can employers who don't care for a rainy day expect to make hay while the sun shines?

The point of this mixed metaphor relates to several manufacturers in the Southwest Region currently complaining to the union about the lack of skilled help during the busy fall season. Their gripe: The union doesn't have a generous supply of such experienced workers.

But, as Regional Director Meyer Perlestein noted last week, "When the industry was experiencing a depression, employers were only too happy to lay off workers, most shops operated part-time, no new employees came in and no new workers were trained by the manufacturers. In short, the employers did nothing to prepare for tomorrow."

"Tomorrow is here," declared Perlestein, "and now the firms find themselves without the skilled help they need. Almost 90 per cent of the workers are women. Without employment in the garment industry, they left for other work, some retired, some just left the trade."

"Now conditions have improved and the employers have discovered that there is a shortage of skilled workers. Of course, it is the manufacturers who fell down on the job, but they don't blame themselves. They want the union to provide them with such workers. Presumably they expected the union to train employees and then keep them sitting on benches hoping for a call to report to work."

Nagler Indicates Gloak Season In N. Y. Off to Stronger Start

This year's fall season in the coat and suit industry got off to a much stronger start than last, reports Vice Pres. Isidore Nagler, general manager of the New York Cloak Joint Board. This development spurred hopes for a break in the downward trend that has plagued the industry for the past few years, when

Queen



Mariele Rousseau, Montreal ILGWU member and winner of "Queen of Midwesterns" title last year, is star of Canadian Film Board-produced film "Midwesterns," now making round of theatres in that country. Movie tells story of garment worker's absorption into union educational activities.

KNITGOODS WORKERS CONDUCT OFFENSIVE AGAINST OPEN SHOPS

A vigorous organizational campaign against open-shoppers conducted by Local 135, New York Knitgoods Workers, has cornered Margo Knitting Mills and Pine-Son Knitting Mills, Manager Louis Nelson reports.

Employees of the two firms, who went on strike to win union contracts, returned to work with wage increases, shorter working hours, and standard union benefits. Arthur Jacobson directed organizational activities.

Unit production in the knitted underwear sector for the first half of this year is at a record high and the outlook is favorable for the duration of the season. Barring unit production, as usual for this time of year, is at a standstill.

HOW TO BUY

by Sidney Margolis

Avoid Overpriced Items In Purchases of Vitamins

Vitamin products are one of the most overpriced items families have to buy. The trouble is, many doctors prescribe brand-name products with which they are acquainted through the personal visits of manufacturers' representatives and the large drug corporations' advertising. (But on the other hand, it's unwise and expensive to dose oneself indiscriminately with vitamins without consulting a doctor as to your actual need for them.)

Actually, vitamin products are one of the easiest items to shop and compare. Government regulations require that vitamin preparations show on the label their actual potency.

When two different brands both are labelled-for example—25,000 U. S. P. units of vitamin A, then you can simply buy the one that costs the least. "U.S.P." stands for United States Pharmacopoeia, meaning that vitamins and drugs carrying this designation conform to the accepted standards for these products. Sometimes the lower-priced private brands even have higher potencies than some of the widely-advertised vitamin products.

brand vitamin products are available from a number of sources these days, including consumer co-ops, large department stores, the mail-order houses and vitamin specialists who sell by mail. A cooperative that sells by mail is Celo Laboratories, Inc., Celo, North Carolina.

Phony 'Homework' Ads

The Association of Better Business Bureaus reports that there has been a great deal of phony "homework" advertising, especially in the cheap pulp and "junk" magazines. The principal idea of the homework advertisers is to sell you materials. One recently has been led into the sale of a sewing machine, really aiming at selling the machines.

A reader has written us telling about her experiences with a tie-making outfit. This company advertises that you can go into the tie-making business at home, and they will take all you can make. She had to buy a "tinny" kit to make the ties.

The company then paid her \$12.50 a dozen for making ties, less the postage she had to pay for the material and to send back the finished ties. She worked "diligently and accurately," and found it took three hours per tie, so she earned a total of 2 cents an hour. She asked for a refund of the \$5 she paid for the tie-making kit, but this was refused because the kit had been worked on.

The shame of it is that the magazine which lured thousands to these rackets prying on poor people who want to earn money working at home, are well aware that these are phony ads. The Federal Trade Commission and Better Business Bureaus ought to get after the magistrates themselves to discontinue this kind of advertising.

Local 405 Is Accepting Retirement Applications

Local 405, New York Sewers Workers, is accepting applications now from members who wish to retire next Jan. 1. Manager Martin L. Cohen announces. Applications may be filed until the end of October. Applicants must bring their union books and proof of age to the union office when filing.

Benefits totaling \$70,000 have been paid to 82 members retired since they had been \$50 monthly pension payments in 1950, Cohen reports.

Visit to Bard College Annandale-on-Hudson

Saturday, Aug. 20

Planned bus trip on behalf of the Hudson to the college, where Dr. James H. Case Jr., Bard president, will address the group.

Round trip, \$3. Make reservations now with ILGWU Education Department 1719 Broadway, N. Y. C. 10, CO. 5-7000

First Step to Retirement



Frances Marino (second from right), member of Italian Dressmakers' Local 89, who joined the ILGWU in 1912, is interviewed by members of dress pattern committee as the applies for retirement. Left to right: Howard Astrow, office manager of retirement fund; Murray Gross, assistant general manager of Dress Joint Board and acting chairman; Carole Mosso of office staff; Nathan Margolis, assistant manager of Local 22; Other members of committee are Elias Kufnerstein, Max Goldstein and John Gelo, assistant managers of Locals 60, 10 and 89, respectively.

durable items were crowding soft goods out of the consumer spotlight. Also, the trend toward sportswear and casual dress has affected the coat and suit industry more than other branches.

Attending to the season's solid shirt are figures released by the U. S. Department of Commerce and statistics on Consumer Protection Label sales issued by the National Coat and Suit Industry Recovery Board.

Although the pace in recent weeks has not matched the season's bustling beginning, production in general at this point is still running ahead of last year, Nagler points out.

As the cloak chief, ad forecast, coats are doing much better than in previous seasons. The suit situation, however, which has been doubted, has not been up to par. Should there be any improvement in the suit picture, cloakmakers will enjoy a decidedly better season than they have experienced for some time.

Industry observers, nonetheless, are charting the season's progress carefully with an eye on the two basic factors that make for a successful season: Consumer acceptance of new and fabric and the volume of orders.

Pre-Pact Plans



Workers' committee of Local 290, Henderson, Ky., and Southwest Region officers discuss state of negotiations with Dial-Lou Frocks Co. Firm signed renewal with wage hikes last week. Left to right: seated, Vice Pres. Meyer Perlestein, regional director; Kathryn Goad; Ilene Duckworth, shop chair; Amya Burton; Frank Rohrer, assistant regional director. Standing, Lester Hamman; Mildred Wade, staff member; Debra Hampton.

AEL Bids Congress Act to Halt Pirating of Industrial Plants

The American Federation of Labor last week made public a documented report on one of the nation's growing economic headaches—the pirating of industrial plants from established locations and the resulting spread of blight and unemployment in abandoned areas.

Submitted to the Executive Council of the AFL, which met in Chicago, the report recommended a four-point legislative program to cope with the problem, including a sweeping investigation by the Joint Congressional Committee on the Economic Report. The other recommendations are:

Federal income tax exemption should be lifted from municipal bonds issued to finance industrial construction, and firms enjoying subsidized rentals should be required by the legislation to disclose to business expense an amount equal to the reasonable full rental value of the facilities provided.

(In the final session of the 80th ILGWU convention, President Dubinsky labelled these practices "cheaters' socialism." He declared:

"Some communities take ad-

vantage of hospitals in the income tax law to help finance under competition. They lease bonds. The proceeds from the sale of these bonds are used to build factories which are then offered almost at gifts, and sometimes as actual gifts, to cheaters seeking bargains in rent and hospital in labor.

"The high breasted income investor gets a tax-exempt gift of security. If the factory fails, the investor is still guaranteed his income. The citizens of the community must pay for the loss.

"The other words, the risk of the factory is shared by all citizens—while the profits of the factory are pocketed by the cheaters—the present industry employer cheater. The cheater, of course, shoots free enterprise. He is against socialism. He shows his enterprise by getting

the taxpayer's money free. This should properly be called 'cheaters' socialism,' or the 'cheaters' state for the gray employee."

Steps should be taken, by increasing the federal minimum wage to \$1.35 an hour, by amending the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act and by the enactment of effective state minimum wage laws, to reduce and gradually eliminate wage differentials existing between various sections of the country.

Other unwarranted differentials in labor standards among the states should be eliminated by enactment of nation-wide unemployment compensation standards, by repeal of Section 14 (b) of the Taft-Hartley Act, by also repealing state "right-to-work" laws and by denying government contracts to firms found in violation of orders of the National Labor Relations Board.

Workers Abandoned

The report charged that "the ruthless manner in which industrial firms have abandoned their employees in a particular location in order to establish operations at another site has seriously jeopardized

the welfare of American workers."

It found that in many instances such moves have resulted not so much from the cost problems of continuing operation in existing plants, but because of special financial inducements offered by a different community together with other factors such as anti-labor restrictions, low wages, and inferior working conditions.

Financial Lures

The report declared industrial migration represents a phenomenon that has developed with increasing intensity during the past seven years and that much of the migration "has not been based on traditional economic reasons . . . It has occurred as a result of various types of financial subsidies offered with the specific objective of prying firms loose from their existing plant locations to settle in new communities."

Of vital importance to labor is another type of low-standard wage rates, a substandard wage rate, a substandard work force, anti-union and low-standard state labor legis-

lation and an atmosphere openly hostile to unions.

"Each of these," the report said, "prevents the movement of a financial subsidy as outright tax concessions or the free construction of a plant. To some short-sighted firms lower wages, fewer fringe benefits, and an absence of unionism may prove more attractive than the savings which result from the construction without cost of a new plant."

In four specific manufacturing industries examined in the report—textile, apparel, furniture and paper—older manufacturing regions have lost ground to the Pacific states and the South. The report declared the shift to the Pacific represents a "natural growth" but a goodly part of the shift to the South results from special subsidies.

"In no way has this study been prepared with any bias or animosity against the South or against Southern industry," the report said. "It is merely a simple fact that these subsidies have largely been offered in the Southern states."

Boosts for 300 in Davidson Renewal



Contract renewal bringing wage hikes and shorter working hours to 300 employees of Davidson brothers firm in Coventry, R. I., is signed in New York by company representatives and Northeast Department officers. Pen in hand (center) is Vice Pres. David Gingsold, department director. Seated (left to right) are Anne Verboncoeur, Fall River Manager; Frederick Sims, company pres. Harvey Weisman, chairman of board; Sidney Davidson, Dorchester Delaney, Standing; Loreta Dondeneau, Lee Trudess; Aline Landry, Business Agent Dan McCarthy; Lillian Fontaine and Claire Scydlo.

DAVIDSON BROTHERS RENEWAL PROVIDES HOUR CUT, PENSIONS

A long period of drawn-out, lagging negotiations with Davidson Brothers of Coventry, R. I., came to an end last week when the firm signed a pact renewing cutting weekly working hours and raising wages for 300 employees, Vice Pres. David Gingsold, Northeast Department director, reports.

The new contract with this underwear and lingerie manufacturer provides, in addition to the workweek, a 5 per cent annual wage hike, six paid holidays and establishment of a retirement fund.

Negotiations Stall
From the beginning, negotiations with Davidson proceeded at a slow, unproductive pace. Fall River Manager Fred Sims and Business Agent Dan McCarthy, heading a team of ILGWU negotiators, pushed union demands, but no progress was achieved.

Numerous obstacles were put forward constantly by the employers, preventing agreement on most points and forcing the talks into an even more sluggish pace. At this point the workers' impatience boiled over.

Demanding positive evidence of Davidson's good faith, they walked out, leaving the shop at an absolute standstill for two days. At the end of that time, the company finally contacted the headquarters of the Northeast Department, asking for another meeting and promising more concrete offers.

A meeting in New York on Aug.

Dress Employers Scan Improved Health Plans

Details of revised and improved health benefits for New York's dressmakers have been formulated after weeks of conferences between officers of the four local comprising the Dress Joint Board, and health insurance authorities, it is announced by General Manager Julius Hochman. The proposals have been submitted to the employer groups for their consideration.

Change proposed in the health and welfare benefits and services are the results of the latest renewal of the dress industry collective agreements. The contract was renewed late last February after extended negotiations.

Among the gains won in the eleven-hour settlement was the provision pertaining to health and welfare benefits. This opened the way for the dressmakers to achieve what will unquestionably be one of the best programs of its kind in the country.

At the time the contract was renewed, it was agreed to allow time for working out the details of the welfare improvements. These were made possible by an increase in employer payments to the health and welfare fund from an amount equal to 4 per cent of payroll to 5 per cent. This higher contribu-

All in Favor



Workers of Penn State, Lisle and Allison-Gap shops in Allentown, Pa., voted resounding approval of proposals formulated by negotiating committee for contract renewals with the three firms, employing 1,400.

900 at Carter of Springfield Obtain Across-the-Board Rise

Cooperation between labor and management, combined with efficient production methods, have proved more than a match for low-wage, anti-union competition in the case of William Carter Co. of Springfield, Mass., Vice Pres. David Gingsold, director of the Northeast Department, reports.

Besides its Springfield shop, Carter has a plant in Gilbertville, Mass., and three more in the South, but work schedules for the 900 Springfield employees have been maintained and conditions have steadily improved.

Last week, the shutdown of operations in the shop was further pointed up when wage reopening talks resulted in an across-the-board general wage increase.

Carter, which manufactures nationally-known brands of sleepwear and children's underwear, signed a three-year pact with Local 228 in 1953 featuring a 32-hour work week, employer's contributions to health and welfare funds of 8 per cent of payroll, and six paid holidays.

Equally important was the maintenance of employment agreement won by Field Superintendents Halpin and Field Manager Sol Chalkin. As a result of their efforts, Carter pledged that for at least five years there would be no cutback in production in New England. Further, the area had to share equally with other re-

gions in any company expansion.

Vice Pres. Gingsold, in announcing the latest Carter increase said, "It is not surprising that Carter can grant a wage raise when other area industry is back-sliding or trying to settle for a status quo. In our dealings, mutual respect and the sound utilization of productive skills have enabled the company to compete favorably in the market while assuring its workers of job security and high working conditions."

SEEK SUPPLEMENTAL JOBLESS PAY BENEFIT IN ALLENTOWN TALKS

The Allentown District of the Northeast Department has invoked a request for an employer-financed supplementary unemployment insurance plan among the contract changes in undergarment workers' agreements with three firms in that area. It is announced by Vice Pres. David Gingsold. The three companies employing a total of 400 workers, according to District Supervisor Sol Greene, who heads the negotiating committee.

The greatest step would require the employer to pay workers \$15 for each five days for which the firm fails to provide employment. In this way the firm will join in providing pay benefits for workers who are made jobless through no fault of their own. The benefit would supplement that received from the state.

The plan would further require employers to make contributions equal to 3 per cent of payroll to a fund, held in escrow, from which the supplementary benefit would be paid. The number of weeks of benefit would be prorated to length of employment with the firm.

Other demands put forth by the Allentown District are shortening of the work week and upward adjustment of welfare fund contributions and pay scales.

The firm with whom negotiations are now in progress are: Penn State, Lisle and Allison-Gap.

ILG PANEL FINDS

Group Activity Vital Key To Security in Our World

More than 500 ILGers jammed the auditorium of Hunter College High School in New York recently to hear four prominent educators discuss "Security and Insecurity in Today's World" at the annual Panel Discussion of the ILGWU-Education Department.

On the panel were Professors Eli Ginzberg, S. M. Lipset and Henry David of Columbia University and Marie Jahoda of New York University.

Fannia M. Cohn, secretary of the Education Department, presided. Following are highlights from three of the talks.

Eli Ginzberg:

There have been two major approaches to studying causes of insecurity. One centers on psychological origins of adult insecurity, rooted in the childhood and developmental experiences of the person. The other approach, more typical of the concern of trade unions, is to stress the way in which pressures in the economic and social environment—lack of money, lack of adequate housing, racial prejudice, and similar facets of social pathology—make it impossible for individuals to feel secure about their present or their future.

But let me remind you that the practices of Park Ave. psychiatrists are made up in large part of individuals who come from very well-to-do families, where there were too many rather than too few dollars available.

Rich and poor, black and white, farmer and worker—all of us have been living through a time in history conspicuous by the extraordinary demands that it has made on all of us for adjustment. Two world wars and a lifelong depression, and now the possibility of total annihilation is the environment most of us have known directly and which influenced all of us indirectly.

It is important that we feel a high degree of insecurity about the danger of a holocaust, such thinking will lead us to work together with our fellow citizens in the effective maintenance of peace. In a paradoxical manner, our very insecurity may yet provide us with a foundation on which to build a secure world.

Marie Jahoda:

Some people have implied that if everybody were psychologically free and free from stresses and worries there would be no tension in this world. However, things are not so simple. Trade unionists know that conflicts with employers, for example, can arise quite apart from personal difficulties.

Life without conflict is inconceivable. Many of the major events in one's life—the making and breaking of personal relationships; birth, marriage, illness, old age and death; the struggle for economic improvement, the search for love and a purpose in life—all will always give rise to tensions.

What we do with our personal problems is related to world tensions. In both areas, we can at least try to face the issues.

Making an effort is what counts in both areas. Of course, the nature of the effort is different when we deal with our private tensions than when we deal with public tensions.

Work for what they want to see happen. Unions, political parties and other voluntary organizations are the way through which individuals in our society can achieve influence in world events. But as all get worried about what we sense as wrong in the world, let us combine our efforts and try to do something about it, even though we know that other problems will arise after current ones are solved.

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Seymour Lipset:

There has been a general tendency for society to move from a predominantly family-oriented and stable small community culture, in which individuals were born, existed and died in the same place, to a form of social organization which is characterized by individuality and freedom of association and action.

To solve the problem of the decline of the extended kinship system and the growth of impersonality in occupational relationships, modern man has tried to substitute associations of various kinds.

To the impersonal cash nexus orientation of the employers, the workers countered with labor unions.

Of course, unions are not the only form of organized representation which exists in America. The various farm organizations, the chambers of commerce and other business groups, the veterans' associations, the service clubs and the fraternal, the professional societies, all fulfill comparable functions for their members. And in a real sense, democracy in the "mass society" is based on the conflict of interest groups, rather than the participation of individuals in direct politics.

These organizations give their members psychic satisfactions. In addition to providing a sense of belonging, they give some sense of power over one's own life.

Thus, the disappearance of the small community "folk society" into the rational impersonal "mass society" has been paralleled by the emergence of new institutional forms which attempt to make life in the "mass society" predictable and controllable.

From the Union's Classroom to the Union's House



Decorative copper plaques fashioned by ILGers in the union's arts and crafts classes are presented to Unity House by group of students during special Pennsylvania trip. Unity visit came after bus ride by class to annual Pennsylvania State Handicrafts Show in Stroudsburg.

Puerto Rican Undie Pay Rise Recommended

Special Industry Committee No. 17-A has recommended to the Administrator of the U. S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division that hourly minimum wages be increased 14 cents for machine work in the silk, rayon and nylon underwear division of the Puerto Rican women's apparel industry.

The committee's recommendation, reached after a hearing held on the island last month, provides a boost in rates from 31 to 48 cents an hour in these trades. This is 3 cents higher than the hike suggested by an industry committee previously but turned down by the Administrator.

Miscellaneous Rise

Other recommended increases are from 21 to 36 cents for hand-sewn operations in the underwear industry and from 21 and 36 cents to 45 cents in the miscellaneous section of the needlework and fabricated textile division.

Dr. Lassar Tupper, ILGWU research director, and Miguel Garcia, AFL regional director in Puerto Rico, labor members of the committee, dissented from the recommendations maintaining they were far too low.

"They especially opposed the lumping of various women's apparel lines, including coats, skirts and suits, with products such as ironing board covers and shower curtains in the miscellaneous textile fabrics division. They asserted the different apparel trade should be classified separately."

In a brief submitted to the in-

MIDDLE, UPPER PRICE DRESS RANGES SHOW WORK, EARNINGS FAIR

A preliminary survey of the present season in middle and upper price ranges of the New York dress industry indicates a fair condition in terms of volume of work and level of earnings.

Information disclosed by the Associated Department of the New York Dress Joint Board points up the fact of slow production caused by the unusual and extended period of hot weather, according to Meyer Kravetz, department manager.

Coupled with the weather factor is the increased intricacy of styling, making for excellent values but also serving to brake the flow of production.

In lines wholesaling above the \$12 mark, there has been a call for more operators to help meet delivery deadlines. At the same time, buyers representing retail outlets have again added to the difficulty of the problem of delivery by making their orders small and short.

The fabric picture is good, in the sense that supplies of wanted fabrics are adequate and much intrinsic interest is to be found in the materials being used.

substandard wages and substandard rates in Puerto Rico not only endangers the welfare of the island economy and depresses the living standards of the Puerto Rican worker, it also increasingly threatens the standards of the mainland industry as well by fostering the very kind of unfair competition in terms of labor and production which the Fair Labor Standards Act has been designed to minimize and eliminate.

Raising Puerto Rican minimums to the level of the mainland would still leave island employers with a competitive advantage, the report points out. For this equalization would not wipe out the cost differential between mainland and island. These arise principally because average wages in Puerto Rico tend to hug the minimum, while mainland wages are paid at levels which far exceed those of the legal minima. The various benefit payments which mainland employers make and most island employers do not also add to the cost imbalance.

The continued existence of

Job Guarantee Talks Started With St. Louis Garment Assn.

Formal negotiations for a guaranteed employment plan in St. Louis, Mo., were launched last week. At the same time, the large Rice-Stix Dry Goods Co. was officially notified of the union's aim to win a basic annual wage clause in the upcoming contract, Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein, Southwest regional director, reports.

The first conference in current negotiations between the union and the Associated Garment Industries of St. Louis was held July 26. Headed by Perlstein and Carl Carlson, association president, the two sides probed the implications and weaknesses of the guaranteed employment plan and exchanged views on the project.

The manufacturers argued that the plan would be "too burdensome" for individual employers and that, while it contained many good points, it was too premature and far too advanced.

In reply, union spokesmen said that, if anything, the workers' present annual wage structure is well-dated. Measured on a yearly basis, the earnings of a worker who is employed for 35 or 40 weeks annually by virtue of his right to purchase the absolute essentials of life.

The industry must begin to consider the minimum annual earnings required by a worker and not merely the wage during those weeks in which he is actually employed.

Further conferences along this line are scheduled for the near future.

A recent conference to discuss the

reorganization of the Rice-Stix company was also the occasion for union presentation of a guaranteed employment plan. Such a plan would be included in the new contract now being negotiated with the company.

Several days after the conference, the Southwest Regional Office received a request from the company for an extension of the contract deadline to Dec. 31. The present expiration date is Aug. 18. However, Vice Pres. Perlstein told the firm that union officers have no right to grant extensions without approval of the workers.

The reason offered by the company for the extension is that the reorganization of the firm, under new management, is taking longer than expected.

The union also learned that Rice-Stix is operating an out-of-town women's garment plant, in addition to the firm's St. Louis facilities. Perlstein reminded the company that the forthcoming agreement should be a multi-plant one, covering all the firm's better garment employees.

A supplementary settlement with Rice-Stix last month gave almost \$800 in severance pay to two workers laid off at the St. Louis shop.

CUTTERS' COLUMN

Cutter-Backed Medical Clinic In Israel Opens in September

A new medical clinic in Israel, which members of Local 10 helped finance, has just been completed, according to Manager Moe Falkman. Cutters' contributions of \$17,500 already have been transmitted for this project, he reported, and it is expected the total will reach \$25,000.

The clinic is located in a newly developed suburb of Tel Aviv called Olivat Ramham, named after the famous Jewish philosopher better known as Maimonides. Housed in a modern three-story building comprising 30 rooms, the clinic has the latest medical equipment, X-ray laboratory, pharmaceutical and other facilities and a sizable staff of doctors and nurses.

It will meet the needs of people in the community who heretofore have had to travel to Tel Aviv for medical attention. A large number of them are recent immigrants to Israel.

The clinic was constructed and will be maintained by Hapatz Haim, medical arm of Histradrut, the trade union and cooperative movement of Israel. Official opening of the new

No membership meetings of Cutters' Local 10 are scheduled during July and August.

Institution is scheduled for September. Manager Falkman, who was the principal initiator of this project, hailed the news of the completion of the clinic. He lauded the members and officers of the local who had been responsible for the success of the fund-raising drive that had helped to launch the new institution.

This was not the only instance of Local 10's support of constructive undertakings in Israel, Falkman pointed out. Several years ago, when the ILOUW helped establish a trade school on the outskirts of Haifa, Local 10 contributed sewing machines and other equipment.

Commenting on this phase of Local 10 activity, Manager Falkman observed that one of its noteworthy aspects has been "the generous support given by cutters of all faiths and origins. It reflects the feeling of brotherhood which exists among the cutters, regardless of differences of race, color or creed."

Morris Freed Dead

Local 10 lost a devoted and valued member with the recent passing of Morris Freed. He joined the organization in 1913, and had served on the executive board since 1939. Officers and active members attended the funeral to pay their respects to the departed member and convey their sympathy to his family.

"He Said It's Terrific, But What Is It?"



NORTHEAST PLANNING TO SET UP ADDITIONAL HEALTHMOBILE UNITS

The unequalled success of the Northeast Department's mobile health center over the past nine months has spurred a quest by Pennsylvania managers for more units, reports Vice Pres. David Glingold, department director.

Glingold disclosed that, as a result of a managers' meeting last month, the Northeast health and welfare committee currently is probing the possibility of developing a fleet of mobile diagnostic facilities to increase medical service to union members in remote areas.

A survey of the mobile center's practical operation at comparatively low cost has fulfilled all expectations, Glingold noted. In addition, the service has received wholehearted support by the medical profession.

The need for more units was pointed up by the disclosure that those districts already visited by the healthmobile will have to wait two years before the existing schedule permits a revisit.

The mobile health center, put into service last September, is a custom-built, fully-equipped clinic on wheels, staffed by a doctor, nurse and technician. It provides mem-

Los Angeles Lists Discussion Series

Two discussion series highlight the summer education program in Los Angeles. The first, on problems of health, is sponsored by the Education Department, the Union Health Center and the County Tuberculosis Assn. and features noted medical specialists.

The Clockmakers' Forum has slated a number of discussions on industry problems, social progress of the labor movement and regional problems of California.

Trophies for excellence in the recent bowling season were awarded at the annual Bowlers' Dinner. Winners included Al Rodriguez, Nick Lavasani, Meyer Silverstein, Louise HAA, Dolores Salamone, Allen Clarke. The winning team was composed of Nick Lavasani, Allen Clarke, Angelo Napoli, Al Hernandez and Rene Gutierrez. Secretary Maurice Davis received a special award for his contributions toward the success of the league.

The annual summer picnic for children of members was held in Griffith Park on Sunday, Aug. 7. Education programs are under the supervision of Director Sigmund Arvella and Assistant Director Allen Clarke.

Members with a physical examination comparable in thoroughness to any given at a stationary health center.

BOOK FRONT

by Miriam Speichandler

People's Action Can Help Solve Civic Problems

THE PEOPLE ACT. By Elmore M. McKee. Harper and Brothers, \$3.95.

Every American, whether or not he could do about it. That is, what he could do about a neighborhood or community grievance or a problem so diffuse that local politicians found no difficulty in side-stepping responsibility.

That challenge captured Mr. Mc-



Kee's imagination a few years ago. Armed with grants from special funds, he toured the country searching for situations of this kind. When he found them, he talked to the people involved and taped their talk.

These recorded exchanges of conversations, speeches, meetings later became the basis for an excellent radio series. One number in that series told of the stabilizing influence exerted by the ILOUW in the women's garment industry.

This book contains a selection of the 29 broadcast series that comprised the series. They tell what people have done about juvenile delinquency, housing shortages, the influx of new neighbors, retaining industry, health care and other social problems.

It tells about them in terms of specific situations, people and communities. Taken together, and including failures as well as successes, these were inspiring instances in which citizens stepped forward over social callousness, the law's delay, political indifference and prejudice.

The book is a stirring affirmation that the power to act has always been with the people, but that reminders of this historical fact are often needed to make them move.

Harvest Books: The admirable first list of this new reprint series published by Harcourt, Brace and Co. contains two important sociological works. THE ACQUISITIVE SOCIETY, by R. H. Tawney, (95 cents) is a classic analysis of the traditional theory of individual property rights. FREEDOM AND UTOPIA, by Karl Mannheim, (\$1.35) is a penetrating study of the myths by which society lives and evolves.

Good-By

By MAX PRESS

There is beauty, sadness, loneliness in "good-bys." The food life smile but there is heartbreak in the eyes. The gay words come, but they come from a sorrow deep. Friendship and love are sore to break but not to keep. All who endure beneath the sun must leave and part. The hands meet, the hands cling and something grips the heart. So passes all that is lovely, all that is bright. We say good-bye and we go alone into the night.

LOCAL 9

N. Y. Clerk Finishers
Membership Meeting
TUESDAY, AUG. 23
after work
Room 108 West 42nd St.

The Whole Shop Celebrates



Workers at Teen Age Frocks Firm in New York, a dress shop, joined in the celebration when owner Lou Epstein and wife (center, seated) marked 25th wedding anniversary last month. They're flanked by shop cheerleader R. Garguilo and firm foreman.



Special JUSTICE features, suitable for easy posting in the shop or for your own personal reference are now available free on request. Check the reprints you want, fill in the stub and mail. Or put your request on a post card giving the Order Number of reprints wanted.

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1. ☐ After 65—A concise explanation of your retirement rights and benefits whether you continue to work or stop.
3. ☐ At Your Service—More than 1,500 on the ILOUW staff work for you. Learn who they are and what they do.
4. ☐ Homes for America—How the ILOUW is pioneering in using welfare resources to replace slums.
6. ☐ The Women in America—Graphic description of how the high birth rate will determine the number of customers for women's and children's apparel in the next 20 years.
7. ☐ How the ILOUW Dollar is Spent—A detailed breakdown of how a union dollar is allocated for the year-round functioning of the ILOUW.

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JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

ALMOST BRILLIANT

HAROLD E. TALBOTT HAS QUIT government service with the promise that he is "going back to business and make myself a little dough." The former Air Force Secretary departs with the injured air of a virtuous man, falsely accused. He exits bedecked with medals and garlanded with praise, admitting mistakes but insisting there was nothing wrong in his being paid \$132,032 by Paul B. Mulligan and Co. during the first two years of his job as Secretary.

Mr. Talbott is the new type of public servant brought into the upper echelons of the federal government by the present Administration. His talent and training have been concentrated on the successful pursuit of profits, and government service apparently was only a detour on the road to this same goal.

Because he slipped and forgot the rules, Mr. Talbott has been compelled to leave the club and seek his fortune elsewhere. But others like him, close to Mr. Eisenhower, will carry forward, more carefully we presume, the cause of kicking government out of business and bringing business into government.

Defense Secretary Wilson, Mr. Talbott's ex-boss, is himself the country's most forceful exponent of the identity of interest between government and Big Business. It was he who warned the nation that its welfare could best be measured by the profit sheets of General Motors. Mr. Talbott merely substituted Mulligan for General Motors. His resentment over Wilson's failure to defend him is altogether understandable.

The most serious damage done by men like Talbott is the undermining of the public's faith in the incorruptibility of industrialists. There has been a long-standing belief that men who have more than enough are less likely to yield to the temptation to make more. Alas, we are now forced to the conclusion that they also tend to confuse public service with self-service.

ONE OF THE COZIEST CORNERS taken over by the militant industrialists is the system of business advisory bodies. Mr. Weeks' Commerce Department has played a lead role in changing the nature of these groups.

Until the beginning of this year, for example, the Business Advisory Council, which helps the Commerce Department in formulating policy, was constrained, like similar bodies, to function within the limits of certain precautionary standards set by the Justice Department. These standards were put into force as the advisory bodies were created during World War II.

In February, according to reports in *Women's Wear Daily*, Attorney General Brownell admitted the reversal of a long-standing federal policy which interpreted these standards as barring trade association executives and professionals from membership on the advisory bodies. The change had been heralded in the announcement made by Stephen Dunn in December 1953. Dunn, general counsel for the Commerce Department and formerly with the Furniture Manufacturers' Assn. of Grand Rapids, issued an opinion that the Justice Department safeguards were not mandatory.

Within a month, the Commerce Department was openly welcoming trade association executives to membership on the advisory bodies. Even Labor Secretary Mitchell was reported anticipating increasing association participation in the affairs of his department.

Last week, it was brought out before Congressman Celler's House Judiciary subcommittee that the Business Advisory Council of the Commerce Department, which is a non-governmental group, does not feel obliged to comply with the general Justice Department rulings requiring a full-time government official to preside over industry advisory committee meetings and that complete minutes be kept on all sessions.

Bodies like the BAC are composed of smaller Talbotts, who know how to butter their own bread. If none among them is of the stature of Talbott, whose performance was called "almost brilliant" by the President himself, they are nevertheless quietly and efficiently continuing the task of converting the federal government into an arm of Big Business.

"Your Decision Is the Right One!"



"The New Offensive"



Government in Economic Life

By
Solomon Fabricant

From a recent report prepared for the National Bureau of Economic Research by its director of research.

THE total government budget for 1954—federal, state and local—may reach close to \$100 billion. We seem to have entered an era in which the activities of government bulk large in the affairs of our economy, far larger than ever before during the relatively brief periods of great war.

To the billions of expenditures, I could add other large figures: the 10 million persons on government payrolls, the 200 billion or so dollars of government holdings of tangible assets, the 300 billion of government debt. And the government's large scale is proclaimed also by every man's frequent encounters with the personnel and property of federal, state and local governments.

But personal impressions are necessarily vague and subject to bias; and the meaning of figures running into the millions and billions is difficult to absorb. To grasp the dimensions of government's area of operations, we need to view them against the background of the economy as a whole.

LAST year, 15 per cent of all workers were in the employ of government, including government enterprises. Last year, 17 per cent of all personal incomes were received from government—including, besides wages and salaries of government workers, also interest, benefit and relief payments. Last year, furthermore, at least 38 per cent of the nation's total expenditures on new construction and on equipment were made by governments.

Still another figure worth mentioning is government's share of the nation's real wealth, measured at current prices net of depreciation. It has been estimated that in 1953, government held close to a fifth of the nation's total stock of capital goods, including military equipment.

Besides employing a great deal of labor and capital directly, government also purchases a large volume of goods and services from business enterprises—\$46 billion worth in 1954. The cost of these purchases, together with the value of the services of labor and capital employed by government, equals the total cost of government output. So calculated, government production equaled about a fifth of gross national product last year.

FURTHER perspective on the present size of government is provided by comparison with the "situation" in an

earlier generation. The percentage of the labor force employed by federal, state and local governments today is almost four times what it was at the close of the 19th century. The percentage of the nation's capital assets in the hands of government is about three times the earlier proportion.

Because government's purchases of goods and services from business enterprises, adjusted for price change, grew even more rapidly than government employment or the real value of government assets, the share of government in the nation's gross product has quadrupled since 1900. Finally, to return to the national balance sheet, the ratio of government debt to national assets in 1949 was seven or eight times the ratio in 1900.

One clue to the sources of government's wide place in the economy today is to be found in the things government does.

Here, to begin with, it is necessary to stress that national defense, important as it is today, accounts for no more than about two-fifths of the total of all government expenditures, capital assets and workers. Government puts even more into the non-defense needs of the community. The figures on employment make this point sharply. Non-defense government work employed 3.5 per cent of the nation's total labor force 50 years ago; today the percentage is 8.5.

AS much as a quarter of non-defense expenditures consists of transfer payments to individuals, including benefits paid to veterans, public assistance, employee pensions, unemployment compensation and the old-age and survivors' insurance payments.

Apart from national defense and transfer payments, government expenditures (and also government workers and capital goods) go largely into the production of a great variety of goods and services, including education, highways, health and hospital services, and municipal services generally.

More resources to government for national defense; for national security against other hazards; for provision of public services; the entry and further penetration of government into fields hitherto reserved for private enterprise or philanthropy—these are the substantial developments that have led to government's present place in the economy.